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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554
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Room 222
Docketz

17 FEB 1993

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FEB 23 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable David E. Skaggs
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Skaggs:

This is in reply to your letter of January 22, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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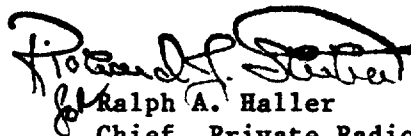
Honorable David E. Skaggs

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ralph A. Haller", is written over a printed name.

Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:

Notice

Order

Discussion paper

Congressional

DUE 2-12-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/05/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300421	02/05/93	01/22/93	02/18/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	David Skaggs	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
<i>Saverd</i> Doris & Jim Shaw	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRE <i>CLM</i> 2-5-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/05/93			

REMARKS:

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PRIVATE

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MEMORANDUM

ENCLOSED FOR YOUR
CONSIDERATION.

David E. King

PRB
92-235
421

JAN 22 1993

January 13, 1993

To: Honorable David Skaggs
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: NPRM -- PR Docket 92-235

Dear Mr. Skaggs,

I am a retired citizen and a Model Store owner who derives many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating Radio Controlled Airplanes/Cars/Boats. This hobby is a continuation of my interest in aviation/boating for as long as I can remember. I am very active in local clubs whose members enjoy constructing and operating Radio Controlled Models. In addition, we are also very active in community affairs using our hobby as way to reach other members of our community.

I am concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR DOCKET 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes/boats/cars.

I am also concerned about the negative impact this will have on many of the thousands of small business owners, like myself, who will be left holding the bag. Modelers will move to other areas because of the frustration of investing a large amount of money and time only to learn that we will be unable to enjoy our hobby because of proposal by the FCC.

Our radio controlled frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio controlled frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either user interfering with the other.

The FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidth and rearranging the current band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio controlled frequencies and cause interference to radio controlled operations. It is my understanding that of the current 30 frequencies in the 72 MHz band that are currently used by radio controlled enthusiast for control of model aircraft, 31 frequencies will be impacted leaving only 19 available if the new rules are adapted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety

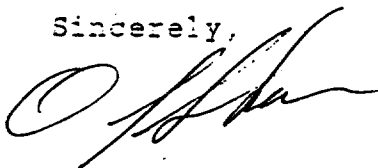
precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished, as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 20 to 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing serious property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio controlled modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our hobby/models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help all the modelers in our great state and the country to continue the safe enjoyment of our pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. We believe that the FCC can explore other avenues to resolve this problem without adversely affecting our enjoyment.

Sincerely,



*Doris & Jim Shaw
7945 Newman St.
Arvada, Colo 80005*

January 25, 1993
Alvin M. Coelho
6781 Harvest Rd.
Boulder, CO 80301
(303) 530-4219

REC'D
FCC. RADIO-FREQU.
2/2/93

The Honorable David E. Skaggs
United States Representative
9101 Harlan St. Suite 130
Westminister, CO 80030-2925

Subject: FCC PR Docket 92-235

Dear Mr Skaggs

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rule will not only greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use, but will increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

I have been in model aviation since 1948 and am currently a very active member in the Longmont Aircraft Modelers Association (A club of 123 members in the Boulder/Longmont and surrounding area.) I personally have thousand of dollars of R/C equipment, and products, which will be placed in jeopardy with the passing of this docket as currently defined.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NMPR) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces part 90 of the rules with a new part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping a 10Khz spacing between fixed commercial users, and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 Khz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (used for R/C Aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Document 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to halt these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely



Al Coelho